

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 10824 140737Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 NASA-02 PA-02 ICA-20 /044 W
-----048918 142005Z /66

R 140733Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8793

UNCLAS TOKYO 10824

FOR OES/APT/SA

DEPT PASS TO NASA HQS WASHDC FOR ALEX P. NAGY;
JOHN SAKSS, CODE I

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TSPA, JA
SUBJECT: EX-ASTRONAUT CERNAN IN TOKYO

1. FORMER ASTRONAUT EUGENE A. CERNAN IS VISITING IN JAPAN AT INVITATION OF ASSOCIATION FOR SPACE SCIENCE EXHIBITION. HIS ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN, INCLUDING A LECTURE IN TOKYO, HAVE RECEIVED LITTLE ATTENTION IN VERNACULAR PRESS. ONLY THE ASAHI, ONE OF THE LARGEST VERNACULAR DAILIES, AND ITS ENGLISH VERSION, THE ASAHI EVENING NEWS, HAVE REPORTED ON ASTRONAUT CERNAN'S PRESS INTERVIEW AND LECTURE IN SHORT ARTICLES CARRYING HIS PHOTO.

2. IN THE PRESS INTERVIEW HELD AT THE SITE OF THE SPACE EXHIBITION JUNE 12, CERNAN IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE TIME IS APPROACHING WHEN EVEN THOSE WHO ARE NOT ESPECIALLY QUALIFIED CAN GO INTO SPACE ABOARD SPACE SHUTTLE AND THAT HE WISHED THAT YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD DIRECT GREATER ATTENTION TO SPACE. IN THE LECTURE, HELD AT THE ASAHI AUDITORIUM JUNE 13 UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP
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OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR SPACE SCIENCE EXHIBITION AND SUPPORTED BY THE ASAHI SHIMBUN, CERNAN RELATED HIS EXPERIENCES IN SPACE FLIGHT AND LUNAR LANDING. TO THE QUESTION OF WHEN HE THINKS THE JAPANESE CAN FLY IN SPACE, CERNAN SAID HE THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHIN NEXT TEN YEARS. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASTRONAUTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO10824
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780249-0083
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780658/aaaabygs.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 956fe888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2347027
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EX-ASTRONAUT CERNAN IN TOKYO
TAGS: TSPA, OVIP, JA, (CERNAN, EUGENE A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/956fe888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014